

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 210108/EP/pr	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP2003/014983	International filing date (day/month/year) 30.12.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 30.12.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC H04L1/20		
Applicant TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET LM ERICSSON (PUBL)		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.
 This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).
These annexes consist of a total of sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the opinion
II	<input type="checkbox"/> Priority
III	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
IV	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention
V	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
VI	<input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited
VII	<input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application
VIII	<input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
22.06.2005	09.09.2005
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:	Authorized Officer
 European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	 Papantoniou, A Telephone No. +31 70 340-4116

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP2003/014983

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, Pages

1-12 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-18 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/1 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:
- the drawings, sheets:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/EP2003/014983

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-18
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-18
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-18
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/EP2003/014983

1. The application relates to a system (Claim 1), a receiving station (Claim 9) and a method (Claim 13) for determining a bit error rate at a receiving station whereby the receiver determines the bit error rate by relating decoded soft values of a received bit sequence to a bit error rate using a look-up table to determine bit-wise bit error values. The bit error values are then averaged.
2. Such a system, a receiving station and a method are disclosed by the document **D1**: US 2002/172302 A1 (REGE KIRAN M ET AL) 21 November 2002 (2002-11-21)
3. The essential difference between the subject - matter of claims 1, 9 and 13 and D1 is that one of a multiple of look-up tables are selected depending on the quantized received bit sequence.
4. The problem solved by these features is the inaccuracy of bit error rates especially over a large range of error rates and in particular over low signal to noise ratios.
5. While document D1 provides a bit error rate estimation whereby an additional look-up table is provided for obtaining a compensation factor for the bit error rate, the compensation factor being a function of the signal to noise ratio, the invention does not require additional calculations or references to additional look-up tables, since only one look up table is selected out of the multiple of look-up tables present and then used, the selected look-up table being dependent on the quantized received bit sequence. Therefore, the invention reduces the computational load with respect to the prior art as it reduces the number of table access operations and compensation calculations.
6. None of the available documents anticipates the proposed solution. Thus the requirements of novelty Article 33(2) PCT), inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) and industrial applicability (Article 33(4) PCT) are all met.